

Testimony of

Stephanie Cahill

Stamford Educator

Before the

Education Committee

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Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of the caps on class sizes proposed in Senate Bill 1093, which would take an important step in ensuring that classrooms are places where students can learn, and educators can teach.

Last year, I taught 5 sections of high school English with classes capped at 30 students. Four out of my five sections were enrolled at 28+ students, making my total student load around 140 students. Most of my assessments (formative and summative) focus on student-written responses, which are very time-consuming to grade. When I have large class sizes, it takes me longer to get those assignments back to students for review, sometimes resulting in them not getting work back before the next assessment of the same skill because there just isn't enough time in the day to get the work done. If the assignment uses a rubric, I often have to opt out of leaving individual comments because it increases the amount of time I need to spend on each assignment, further delaying my ability to pass back work quickly. This is obviously disadvantageous to my students since individual feedback is very helpful for student growth.

If classes were capped at 25, ideally I would have fewer students' work to review, and thus would be able to return work with comments in a more timely fashion.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

